



of the shaving aid in this case is yellow, the user would be alerted to replace the razor head.

In a preferred embodiment, the thermoplastic polymer of the shaving aid consists of a first color. A water soluble coloring agent of a second, different color is added to the shaving aid material. During use, the coloring agent leaches from the shaving aid and the color of the shaving aid changes to that of the thermoplastic polymer. In an alternative preferred embodiment, the thermoplastic polymer is colorless. A coloring agent is added to the colorless shaving aid, forming a shaving aid having the same color as that of the coloring agent. Upon usage, the coloring agent leaches away and the color of the shaving aid fades and eventually changes from the color of the coloring agent to colorless after usage.

Figure 3 illustrates a cross-section of a further embodiment of the present invention. In this embodiment, the shaving aid 11 comprises two distinct layers. A lower layer 31 of thermoplastic material of a first color is mounted in a non-skin engaging position adjacent to the razor head and is non-water soluble. A water soluble or partially soluble upper layer 30 containing a water soluble coloring agent 32 of a second color is mounted in a skin-engaging position adjacent to the lower layer. The upper layer contains the shaving aid material 21. Thus, the shaving aid appears to the user as the second color prior to use and for a certain period of usage. Upon exposure to moisture during usage, the upper layer 30 deteriorates and uncovers the lower layer 31. Accordingly, the color of the shaving aid visible to the user changes from the second color of the upper layer to the first color of the lower layer or a discernible intermediate color and the user is thereby notified of the need to replace the razor head.

Figure 4 illustrates a cross section of a further preferred

embodiment of the present invention which comprises a shaving aid having three distinct layers. Two water soluble or partially soluble outer layers 40, 41 of a first color consisting of water soluble coloring agent 44 and shaving aid material 21 coat a center layer 42 of a second color consisting of a non-water soluble thermoplastic material. The shaving aid is mounted on the razor head with either outer layer adjacent to the razor head. According to this embodiment, both outer layers contain shaving aid material, and consequently the shaving aid may be mounted without concern for orienting the skin-engaging side so that it is in the correct position.

Figure 5 illustrates a still further and most preferred embodiment of the present invention. Water soluble or partially soluble coating 60 is disposed upon a section of the surface of shaving aid material 21. Coating 60 wears off of the shaving aid material through solubility, abrasion or a combination thereof. The disappearance of the coating is a signal to the consumer that the shaving aid should be replaced. Coating 60 comprises materials which are able to, at least initially, withstand the conditions, such as heat and humidity, which are encountered during shaving. Coating 60 may also consist of more than one layer, such that one or more layers wear off during usage and either a lower layer or the shaving aid material is ultimately exposed. Various materials which may be employed as a coating which would withstand those conditions include shellacs, glazes, paints, rosins, resins, sealants, gums, lacquers or combinations thereof.

While the coating illustrated in Figure 5 is a single stripe in the middle of the shaving aid material, a plurality of sections of the shaving aid may be coated and the coating or coatings may comprise any desired shape or configuration. For example, multiple or single stripes, multiple or single spots, or multiple or single geometric shapes are all configurations which